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Message Text

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12
ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 AID-05 /055 W
---------- 086446
O R 080730Z MAR 75
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7371
INFO AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMCONSUL BOMBAY
AMCONSUL MADRAS

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 3255

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR IN US
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT AHMED'S STATEMENT UPON THE PRESENTATION
OF CREDENTIALS BY AMBASSADOR SAXBE

1. THE TEXT OF THE STATEMENT BY INDIAN PRESIDENT FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED UPON THE PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS BY AMBASSADOR SAXBE, MARCH 8, FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: I HAVE PLEASURE IN ACCEPTING YOUR CREDENTIALS AS AMBASSADOR OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO INDIA.

OUR TWO COUNTRIES HAVE A COMMON INTEREST IN THE MAINTENANCE OF PEACE, RELAXATION OF TENSIONS AND PROMOTION OF BETTER UNDERSTANDING AMONG NATIONS. IT SHOULD BE OUR ENDEAVOUR TO WORK TOGETHER TOWARDS THE REALIZATION OF THESE OBJECTIVES.

IT IS IN THE SPIRIT OF THESE SAME PRINCIPLES THAT INDIA SEEKS TO BUILD UP A NETWORK OF UNDERSTANDING, MUTUAL RESPECT AND BENEFICIAL COOPERATION WITH ALL NATIONS AND MORE PARTICULARLY WITH OUR NEIGHBOURS. INDIA
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HAS NOTHING BUT FULL RESPECT FOR THE INDEPENDENCE, TERRITORIAL

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INTEGRITY AND THE ENLIGHTENED ASPIRATIONS OF THE
COUNTRIES OF OUR REGION. WE SHALL NOT RELENT FROM THESE
OBJECTIVES, NOTWITHSTANDING THE RECENT DEVELOPMENTS
WHICH MAY CAST A SHADOW ON PROSPECTS FOR THEIR EARLY ATTAINMENT.

IN RECENT YEARS WE HAVE LOOKED FORWARD AND WORKED
HARD TO IMPROVE OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED
STATES AND PUT THEM ON A MATURE, CONSTRUCTIVE AND COOP-
ERATIVE BASIS. THIS IS IN OUR MUTUAL INTEREST AND
SHOULD BE A POSITIVE FACTOR IN IMPROVING INTERNATIONAL
UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION. I BELIEVE WE BOTH RECOG-
NISE THAT REAL PROGRESS, UNHINDERED BY SETBACKS, WILL
DEMAND OF BOTH COUNTRIES, A SINCERE DESIRE TO UNDERSTAND
AND APPRECIATE EACH OTHER'S VITAL CONCERNS, NATIONAL
ASPIRATIONS AND LONG-TERM INTERESTS.

MR. AMBASSADOR, WE APPRECIATE YOUR PERSONAL ASSOCIATION
WITH OUR COUNTRY IN THE PAST. I AM PLEASED TO
WELCOME YOU NOT ONLY AS AMBASSADOR OF YOUR GREAT COUNTRY,
WITH A DISTINGUISHED RECORD OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO
YOUR COUNTRY, BUT AS ONE WHO HAS TAKEN A KEEN INTEREST
IN BUILDING STRONGER INDO-AMERICAN RELATIONS. IN THIS
TASK THAT YOUR PRESIDENT HAS ASSIGNED TO YOU AND WHICH
YOU HAVE ACCEPTED WITH ENTHUSIASM - OF ENLARGING AND
STRENGTHENING THE AREAS OF COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR TWO
GOVERNMENTS - YOU CAN DEPEND ON THE FULLEST COOPERATION
OF THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE OF INDIA. END QUOTE.

2. AMBASSADOR SAXBE'S STATEMENT WAS THE SAME AS THAT
APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT (NEW DELHI - 3016).SAXBE

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